

## **VIII. CLAIMS APPENDIX**

The following is a listing of the claims involved in this appeal:

1. An absorbent article, comprising:
  - (a) a liquid permeable cover;
  - (b) a liquid impermeable baffle;
  - (c) an absorbent disposed between the cover and said baffle, said absorbent article being configured for disposition primarily within a vestibule of a

female wearer, said absorbent article having a central longitudinal axis, an outer edge defining a first outer perimeter of said absorbent, a body-faceable surface, and a surface opposed to the body-faceable surface; and

- (d) a retainer flap extending over said baffle and covering greater than about 40 percent of the surface opposed to the body-faceable surface such that said baffle is between said retainer flap and said absorbent, said retainer flap having a second outer perimeter, the second outer perimeter having first and second portions, the first portion being disposed proximate the first outer perimeter of said absorbent article, and being generally attached in said absorbent article at or adjacent the first outer perimeter, the second portion of the second outer perimeter of said retainer flap extending across an outer surface of said baffle whereby said retainer flap covers a portion of said baffle, the second portion of the second outer perimeter of said retainer flap being displaceable from said baffle thereby to define a first cavity between said retainer flap and said baffle.
- 5. The absorbent article as in Claim 1 wherein said retainer flap forms a portion of the surface opposed to the body-faceable surface.
  - 8. The absorbent article as in Claim 1 wherein, for disposal, said absorbent article is adapted to be folded upon itself such that first and second opposing portions of the outer edge at the first outer perimeter are brought into face-to-face relationship with each other, and wherein said retainer flap is adapted to be folded over the opposing portions of the outer edge to thereby open the first cavity and define a second cavity receiving both of the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge thereinto with said absorbent article so folded, whereby said retainer flap retains the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge in the second cavity, and wherein a mid-section of said absorbent article extends outwardly from the second cavity and defines a portion of an outer surface of said absorbent article as so folded.
  - 9. The absorbent article as in Claim 8 wherein said retainer flap is resiliently extensible and wherein resilient forces actively retract the retainer flap about the

first and second opposing portions of the outer edge at the second cavity after the second cavity is fully formed with the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge in the second cavity.

10. The absorbent article as in Claim 8 wherein a first cavity portion of said absorbent article underlying the said retainer flap at the first cavity is configured such that the absorbent is retained between said baffle and said cover after said second cavity is formed.
11. The absorbent article as in Claim 1 wherein the surface opposed to the body-faceable surface is defined in part by said retainer flap and in part by said baffle.
13. The absorbent article as in Claim 1 wherein the first portion of the second outer perimeter extends along the first outer perimeter of said absorbent article between first and second ends of the second portion of the second outer perimeter of said retainer flap, whereby said baffle and the first portion of the second outer perimeter of said retainer flap define a closed end of the first cavity.
14. The absorbent article as in Claim 1, including printed text on a surface which assists in defining, and which is disposed within, the first cavity.
15. An absorbent article, comprising:
  - (a) a liquid impermeable baffle;
  - (b) an absorbent, said absorbent article being configured for disposition primarily within a vestibule of a female wearer, said absorbent article having a central longitudinal axis, an outer edge defining a first outer perimeter of said absorbent article, a body-faceable surface, and a surface opposed to the body-faceable surface; and
  - (c) a retainer flap extending over said baffle and covering greater than about 40 percent of the surface opposed to the body-faceable surface such that said baffle is between said retainer flap and said absorbent, said retainer flap having a second outer perimeter, the second outer perimeter having first and second portions, the first portion being disposed proximate the first outer perimeter of said absorbent article, and being generally attached in said absorbent article at or adjacent the first outer perimeter, the second portion of the outer perimeter of said retainer flap extending across an

outer surface of said baffle whereby said retainer flap covers a portion of said baffle, the second portion of the second outer perimeter of said retainer flap being displaceable from said baffle thereby to define a first cavity between said retainer flap and said baffle.

19. The absorbent article as in Claim 15 wherein said retainer flap forms a portion of the surface opposed to the body-faceable surface.
22. The absorbent article as in Claim 15 wherein, for disposal, said absorbent article is adapted to be folded upon itself such that first and second opposing portions of the outer edge at the first outer perimeter are brought into face-to-face relationship with each other, and wherein said retainer flap is adapted to be folded over the opposing portions of the outer edge to thereby open the first cavity and define a second cavity receiving both of the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge thereinto with said absorbent article so folded, whereby said retainer flap retains the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge in the second cavity, and wherein a mid-section of said absorbent article extends outwardly from the second cavity and defines a portion of an outer surface of said absorbent article as so folded.
23. The absorbent article as in Claim 22 wherein said retainer flap is resiliently extensible and wherein resilient forces actively retract the retainer flap about the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge at the second cavity after the second cavity is fully formed with the first and second opposing portions of the outer edge in the second cavity.
24. The absorbent article as in Claim 22 wherein a first cavity portion of said absorbent article underlying said retainer flap at the first cavity is configured such that said baffle forms a corresponding portion of the surface opposing the body-faceable surface after said second cavity is formed.
25. The absorbent article as in Claim 15 wherein the surface opposed to the body-facing surface is defined in part by said retainer flap and in part by said baffle.